IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Luciano PEDRINI et al

Serial No.:

New

Filing Date:

July 9, 2001

For:

METHOD FOR THE PURIFICATION OF BLOOD BY MEANS OF

HEMODIALYSIS AND/OR HEMOFILTRATION AND APPARATUS

FOR PERFORMING SAID METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-5 and 10-13 as follows:

(Amended) The \ method according to claim 1, characterized in that the infusion \backslash rate (Q_spre) of the substitution solution supplied upstream of the hemodialyser and/or the hemofilter (20) is preferably increased \sqrt{r} elative to the infusion rate (Q_s post) supplied downstream of the hemodialyser and/or the hemofilter with increasing trans-membrane (TMP) and/or increasing blood density and/or increasing hematocrit value (HKT) of the blood.